

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A system and method are disclosed for configuring network access equipment by utilizing a data storage card or a smart card in response to a request for service from a subscriber to a network application service provider. The system includes a card writer for writing configuration data from an application service provider to the card, and a card reader for downloading the configuration settings into the network access equipment from the card. The card may also include provisions for authentication and non-repudiation of service configurations received via a public key cryptography system.